

REMARKS

Claim Objections

The Applicant has amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggested corrections.

Claim Rejections under Section 112

The Applicant has amended each of the claim pointed out by the Examiner in view of the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph. The Applicant respectfully submits that each of the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Double Patenting

The Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer of U.S. Patent 6,745,568 B1. As such, the present application should be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under Sections 102 and 103

The Examiner has indicated that claims 43, 46-47, 49, 54, 58-59, 61-62 and 67-72 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. As previously indicated, the Applicant has amended the claims to address and overcome the section 112 rejections. In addition, the applicant has taken each of the allowed dependent claims and incorporated the allowable subject matter contained

therein into corresponding independent claims. As such, the applicant has also added claims 75-123 to put the allowable subject matter in independent form.

Each of the amendments to the claims find support in the specification and drawings. Thus, no new matter has been added by the foregoing amendments to the claims. The applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If further action is necessary that can be resolved by Examiner Amendment, the Examiner is welcome to call the undersigned in order to expedite issuance. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due pursuant to this amendment to deposit account 50-0881.

Respectfully submitted,



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